

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: James R. Richter  
SERIAL NO.: 10/693,437  
FILING DATE: October 24, 2003

ATTY'S DOCKET: 09793953-0040  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3676  
EXAMINER:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted.

X Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)

— After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

— Payment for the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) accompanies this submission

— The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)

— After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue. The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.

— The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

— The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

— Payment for the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) accompanies this submission by way of **American Express Account** in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Form 2038 is attached for that purpose; or

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.*

Very respectfully,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

By Kevin W. Gynn, Reg. No. 29,927  
Kevin W. Gynn  
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP  
PTO Customer Account No. 026263  
Sears Tower – Suite 8000  
P.O. Box #061080 Wacker Drive Station  
Chicago, IL 60606

When phoning re this application,  
please call (312) 876-2886

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 18, 2004.

Lisa M. Kiselka

11686683



**PATENT**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Ronald Walker

SERIAL NO.: James R. Richter

FILED: October 24, 2003

FOR: "ECCENTRIC MODULAR PIPE  
SEAL"

CASE NO.: 09793953-0040

( GROUP ART UNIT: 3676

)

( I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper  
referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service as  
First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

)

( Commissioner For Patents

)

( P.O. Box 1450

)

( Date of Deposit:

)

( Tina M. Kiselka February 18, 2004

)

( Tina M. Kiselka Date

)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop - Information Disclosure Statement - No Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following information is submitted, pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-1.98 in accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information cited herein is "prior art" as to the invention claimed. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g)-(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that other material information as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists.

Applicant submits herewith Form PTO 1449 listing the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner

(1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made those references of record in this application and

(2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO 1449 to Applicants. Copies of the references are also enclosed.

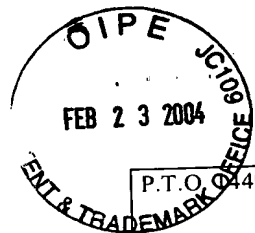
Respectfully submitted,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP  
P.O. Box 061080  
Wacker Drive Station  
Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080  
Telephone: (312) 876-2886

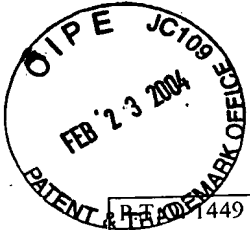
By:

Kevin W. Guynn  
Kevin W. Guynn  
Registration No. 29, 927



Sheet 1 of 2

P.T.O. 449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (use several sheets if necessary)			Docket No. 09793953-0040		Serial No. 10/693,437	
					Applicant James A. Richter			
					Filing Date 10/24/03		Group Art Unit 3676	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate	
	AA	2,295,416	09/08/42	J. Madison				
	AB	3,059,635	10/23/62	W.G. Kubicek				
	AC	3,528,668	09/15/70	B.G. Barton				
	AD	3,649,034	03/14/72	B.G. Barton				
	AE	3,703,297	11/21/72	R.J. Gignac				
	AF	4,298,470	11/03/81	B.G. Stallings				
	AG	4,400,920	08/30/83	D.D. Logsdon				
	AH	4,406,484	09/27/83	J.L. Ramer				
	AI	4,739,998	04/26/88	B.L. Steusloff, et al				
	AJ	5,286,040	02/15/94	N.W. Gavin				
	AK	5,711,536	01/27/98	T.W. Meyers				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	AT	Thunderline/Link-Seal brochure, 2001						
	AU	Metraflex Co. Metraseal Electrical Pipe Wall Penetration Seals brochure, 2000						
	AV							
	AW							
Examiner			Date Considered					
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								



Sheet 2 of 2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (use several sheets if necessary)					Docket No. 09793953-0040		Serial No. 10/693,437	
					Applicant James A. Richter			
					Filing Date October 24, 2003		Group Art Unit 3676	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate	
	AAA	5,882,014	03/16/99	N.W. Gavin				
	AAB	6,039,324	03/21/2000	G.J. Santa, Jr.				
	AC	6,386,550	05/14/2002	J. Mokrzycki, et al				
	AD	6,394,464	05/28/2002	J. Moreau				
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
	AT							
	AU							
	AV							
	AW							
Examiner			Date Considered					
<b>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</b>								